MARVEL® COMICS

SPIDER-MAN®

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VULTURE on the WING!

UNTOLD TALES of SPIDER-MAN®

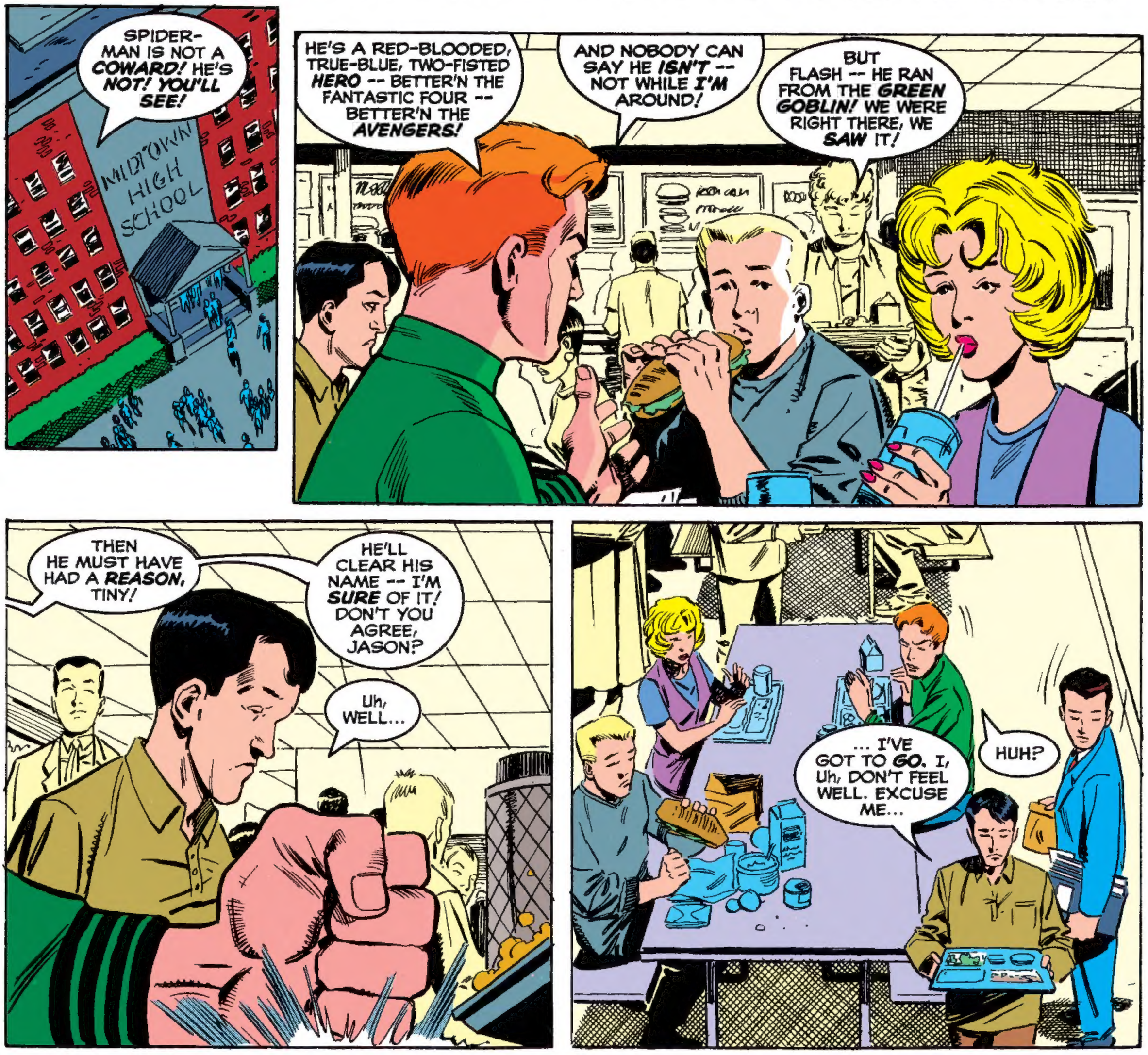
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

ONLY 99¢

COLLECTOR'S ITEM

Bitten by a radioactive spider, high school student **Peter Parker** gained the spider's powers, and soon became the costumed crimefighter the entire world would one day come to know as **Spider-Man!** In the early days of his career, when his amazing powers were still new to him, the teenaged Spider-Man struggled to learn about himself and his abilities, while trying to lead a **normal life!** It would **not** be easy...

STAN LEE PRESENTS... UNTOLD TALES OF SPIDER-MAN!


SPIDER-MAN IS NOT A COWARD! HE'S NOT! YOU'LL SEE!
MIDTOWN HIGH SCHOOL
HE'S A RED-BLOODED, TRUE-BLUE, TWO-FISTED HERO -- BETTER'N THE FANTASTIC FOUR -- BETTER'N THE AVENGERS!
AND NOBODY CAN SAY HE ISN'T -- NOT WHILE I'M AROUND!
BUT FLASH -- HE RAN FROM THE GREEN GOBLIN! WE WERE RIGHT THERE, WE SAW IT!
THEN HE MUST HAVE HAD A REASON, TINY!
HE'LL CLEAR HIS NAME -- I'M SURE OF IT! DON'T YOU AGREE, JASON?
Uh, WELL...
... I'VE GOT TO GO. I, Uh, DON'T FEEL WELL. EXCUSE ME...
HUH?
HEY, THERE'S PETER!
WHY DON'T YOU COME SIT WITH US, PETER -- WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF ROOM!
Aw, WHAT'D YOU WANT WITH THAT BOOKWORM? YOU HAVE A CRUSHING NEED TO BE BORED, OR SOMETHING?
THANKS, LIZ -- DON'T MIND IF I DO.

YOU KNOW, EVERYONE MUST BE CONFUSING OL' SPIDEY WITH ***PARKER*** HERE --

-- AFTER ALL, ***HE'S*** THE BIGGEST COWARD IN TOWN, NOT THE ***WEB-SLINGER!***

THAT'S WHAT I ***LIKE*** ABOUT YOU, FLASH -- YOU'RE SO ***PREDICTABLE.***

WHY, IF SPIDER-MAN WAS CAUGHT WITH THE ***HOPE DIAMOND*** IN HIS LONG-JOHNS, AND HE ***CONFESSED*** TO STEALING IT --

-- YOU'D ***STILL*** SAY HE WAS INNOCENT!

AW, GO SPLIT AN ***ATOM,*** FATHEAD!

SO WHAT DO ***YOU*** THINK, PETER? THIS STUFF ABOUT SPIDER-MAN BEING A COWARD -- YOU THINK THERE'S ANYTHING ***TO*** IT?

THERE ***COULD*** BE! AFTER ALL, NOBODY KNOWS WHO'S ***UNDER*** THAT MASK OF HIS. HE COULD BE ANYBODY --

-- A CRIMINAL, A SPY, A ***TERRORIST...***

THAT ***TEARS*** IT!

I DON'T CARE WHAT KIND OF ***GRADES*** YOU GET, PARKER -- YOU MUST BE THE ***DUMBEST*** GUY IN SCHOOL, THINKIN' LIKE ***THAT!***

SPIDEY COULDN'T BE A CROOK, ANY MORE THAN -- ANY MORE THAN HE COULD BE ***YOU!*** NOW YOU TAKE THAT BACK, OR I'LL --

BOYS, ***BOYS!*** LET'S TALK ABOUT SOMETHING ***ELSE,*** OKAY?

WHAT ABOUT JASON? HE'S BEEN ACTING SO STRANGE LATELY! I THOUGHT HE'D GOTTEN OVER SALLY'S DEATH --

BUT SOMETHING STILL SEEMS TO BE ***BOTHERING*** HIM!

IN #13. --Tom

WINGS of HATRED

A SHOWDOWN IN THE SKY, COURTESY OF:

KURT BUSIEK WRITER ↺ CO-PLOTTER ↻ G.L. LAWRENCE	PAT OLLIFFE PENCILER	AL WILLIAMSON INKER
RICHARD STARKINGS & COMICRAFT LETTERS	STEVE MATTSSON COLORS	TOM BREVOORT EDITOR
BOB HARRAS EDITOR IN CHIEF	A STAN LEE PRESENTATION	

THE CITY SPREADS OUT BENEATH ME LIKE SOME CONCRETE MAZE -- AND THE PEOPLE WHO INHABIT IT, NOTHING MORE THAN SCURRYING RATS --

-- NOTHING MORE THAN PREY FOR ONE SUCH AS I.

THEY'D DO WELL TO LOOK UP AND TREMBLE -- BECAUSE I AM ON THE PROWL TONIGHT, AND TO ONE OF THEM, I'LL BRING DEATH --

-- DEATH AT THE HANDS OF THE VULTURE!

BUT I PAUSE, HERE ON THIS HARBINGER OF DOOM -- AS SOMETHING NAGS AT MY MIND, SOMETHING JUST OUT OF REACH.

AND I FIND MYSELF THINKING BACK --

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-- BACK TO THE BEGINNING -- !

NOT SO VERY LONG AGO, IT WAS -- AND YET, A WORLD AWAY!

I WAS STILL ADRIAN TOOMES, THEN -- IN BUSINESS WITH GREGORY BESTMAN --

B and T ELECTRONICS

BESTMAN ~ TOOMES

-- STARTING A PROMISING ELECTRONICS FIRM. AND SOON, BUSINESS WAS ON THE VERGE OF BOOMING --

-- THANKS TO MY BREAKTHROUGH -- AN ELECTROMAGNETIC HARNESS THAT WOULD ALLOW A MAN TO FLY!

BUT WHEN I WENT TO TELL BESTMAN OF MY SUCCESS --

-- I DISCOVERED HE'D BEEN BETRAYING ME -- SKIMMING OFF OUR PROFITS FOR HIMSELF!

YOU LEECH! PROFITS ARE UP FIFTY PERCENT, NOT FIVE! YOU'VE BEEN HOLDING OUT ON ME, HAVEN'T YOU?

HAVEN'T YOU?!

THERE WAS NOTHING I COULD DO.

MY SO-CALLED PARTNER HAD TIED MY HANDS LEGALLY -- USED MY NAIVETE TO STEAL FROM ME WHAT WAS RIGHTFULLY MINE!

I "RETIRED" TO A FARM ON STATEN ISLAND --

-- WHERE I USED ALL I HAD LEFT -- MY ELECTROMAGNETIC HARNESS --

-- AND THE ASTONISHING STRENGTH IT GAVE ME --

-- TO BURY THAT FOOL ADRIAN TOOMES, AND TAKE WING ANEW --

-- AS THE VULTURE!

I GOT MY REVENGE ON BESTMAN -- DESTROYING HIS BUSINESS, STEALING HIS CASH --

-- AND THEN I WENT ON TO GREATER HEIGHTS -- NO LONGER WEAK, NO LONGER FOOLISH --

-- BUT INSTEAD, A BIRD OF PREY, TERRORIZING THE IGNORANT FOOLS WHO'D ONCE DISMISSED ME AS A NOBODY!

AND NONE OF THEM COULD STOP ME! NONE OF THEM -- BUT SPIDER-MAN.

HE BESTED ME NOT ONCE, BUT... SEVERAL TIMES --

-- IGNOMINIOUSLY LEAVING ME FOR THE POLICE.

BUT EVEN HE COULD NOT STOP ME FOREVER!

INDEED, ONLY WEEKS AFTER MY MOST RECENT CAPTURE, I WAS TAKEN FROM MY CELL --

-- BY MEN WHO SHOWED THE RIGHT PAPERS, WORE THE RIGHT UNIFORMS --

-- BUT WHOSE APPEARANCES WERE AS FALSE AS BESTMAN'S PROMISES TO ME HAD BEEN.

THEY TOOK ME TO THEIR TRUE EMPLOYER --

LET ME GET STRAIGHT TO THE POINT, VULTURE. I'M NICHOLAS LEWIS, MASTER OF THE MOST SUCCESSFUL CRIME ORGANIZATION IN THE CITY.

BUT I HAVE CERTAIN... COMPETITORS. MEN WHO'D CHALLENGE MY POSITION.

I FREED YOU, AND IN RETURN, I WANT YOU TO DO ME A FAVOR...

THERE'S AN UPSTART -- A MAN WHO, IN TIME, COULD BECOME A THREAT. LEWIS WANTS HIM DEAD -- AND I INSTANTLY AGREED TO THE JOB.

I AM THE VULTURE. I PREY ON LESSER MEN. NO MORE NEED BE SAID.

AND YET... AND YET...

BUT WHATEVER WAS NAGGING AT MY MIND, IT'S FORGOTTEN, AS...

WAIT! THAT HEADLINE! CAN IT BE?!

DAILY BUGLE
NEW YORK'S FINEST DAILY NEWSPAPER
SPIDER-MAN A COWARD! Flees in Terror

GIVE ME THAT!

H-HUH? WHA -- ?!

IT -- IT SEEMS TO BE TRUE! SOME COSTUMED VILLAIN -- THE GREEN GOBLIN -- DEFEATED SPIDER-MAN! MADE HIM FLEE LIKE A WHIPPED DOG!

I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE IT!

BUT HOW COULD THE GREEN GOBLIN BEAT HIM WHEN I, THE VULTURE, COULDN'T?

I'D BEEN PLANNING TO GET MY REVENGE ON HIM -- AS SOON AS I'D KILLED LEWIS'S TARGET!

BUT NOW --

AND THEN, I HEAR A SOUND NEARBY --

EH? SOMEONE ELSE -- ON THE ROOF?

HAH! HE MAY THINK HE CAN SPY ON ME WITH *IMPUNITY* -- BUT HE'LL SOON FIND THE VULTURE DOESN'T SUFFER *FOOLS* GLADLY!

YOU THERE! *INTERLOPER!*

WH-WHAT?! *WHO --?*

WHAT DID YOU *HEAR,* BOY? WHO *SENT* YOU? *OUT* WITH IT!

I -- I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE --

SILENCE, BOY! I SEE NOW THAT I WAS HASTY. YOUR *DEMEANOR* -- THE WAY YOU WERE STANDING AT THE *ROOF'S EDGE* --

-- YOU'RE NOT SPYING ON ME AT ALL -- YOU CAME HERE TO *KILL YOURSELF!* ISN'T THAT *TRUE?*

Y-YES.

AND WHY ON *EARTH* WOULD YOU COMMIT A *MORONIC* ACT LIKE THAT?

THIS... THIS IS WHERE A *FRIEND* OF MINE DIED. AND IT WAS *MY* FAULT.

THE KIDS AT SCHOOL, MY FOLKS...THEY *FORGAVE* ME. BUT... I CAN'T FORGIVE *MYSELF.*

WE WANTED TO SEE SPIDER-MAN IN *ACTION*... I WAS DRIVING TOO *FAST,* AND A BUS...

AND YOU'D KILL YOURSELF OVER *THAT?!* BAH! YOU'RE *YOUNG,* BOY! YOU'LL GET OVER IT!

BUT... I FEEL SO *EMPTY*...

THEN FIND SOMETHING TO *FILL* YOURSELF WITH! IF YOU HAVE NOTHING TO LIVE *FOR,* THEN FIND SOMETHING TO LIVE *AGAINST!* FIND SOMETHING TO *HATE!*

I WAS ONCE LIKE ***YOU*** -- AT THE END OF MY ROPE, CONVINCED MY LIFE WAS OVER, AND I WAS A ***FAILURE!***

BUT I DIDN'T ***SUCCUMB!***

I REALIZED THAT WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO ME WAS ***SOMEONE ELSE'S*** FAULT -- AND THAT GAVE ME NEW ***PURPOSE!***

I DEVOTED MYSELF TO HIS ***DOWNFALL*** -- TO GETTING MY ***REVENGE!*** I FILLED MYSELF WITH ***HATRED*** --

-- AND IN THE FIRE OF THAT CRUCIBLE, I WAS ***REBORN!*** INFINITELY SUPERIOR TO THE WEAK, CRINGING CREATURE I ONCE ***WAS!***

THAT'S WHAT YOU NEED, BOY -- YOU NEED A ***FOCUS!*** NO JOY IN YOUR LIFE? REPLACE IT WITH ***ANGER!***

FIND YOURSELF A TARGET -- AND LIVE FOR ***THAT!***

YOU SAY ***SPIDER-MAN*** WAS INVOLVED? BLAME ***HIM*** -- IT'S PROBABLY HIS FAULT ANYWAY!

I -- I DON'T KNOW IF I COULD --

FEH! DO WHAT YOU ***LIKE***, BOY -- I DON'T REALLY CARE. BUT IF YOU'RE ***SMART*** --

-- YOU'LL DO AS ***I*** DID! I BROKE OUT OF MY OLD, WEAK SELF LIKE A ***CHICK*** FROM AN EGG --

-- AND NOW I'M A BETTER MAN THAN I ***EVER*** WAS! YOU ***HEAR*** ME? A ***BETTER MAN!***

AS I FLY OFF, I LOOK BACK, AND HE'S STILL STANDING THERE. MOTIONLESS. THINKING.

WHAT AN IRONY IF HE LISTENED -- IF THE VULTURE SET OUT TO TAKE A LIFE, AND SAVED ONE INSTEAD. BUT NO MATTER.

I HAVE PROMISES TO KEEP.

I *PROMISE* YOU, AUNT MAY -- I'M DOING *FINE.* WILD PARTIES EVERY NIGHT -- RUNNING WITH SCISSORS -- EATING ONLY *BETWEEN* MEALS...

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

EMERGENCY

Oh, PETER -- YOU'RE SUCH A *JOKER.* BUT I'M SO *WORRIED* ABOUT YOU. YOU'RE SO FRAIL, SO *DELICATE* --

-- WHO'LL LOOK *AFTER* YOU, WITH ME STUCK IN THE *HOSPITAL* LIKE THIS?

YOU HAD A *HEART ATTACK,* AUNT MAY. EVEN A HUMAN DYNAMO LIKE YOU DOESN'T BOUNCE BACK FROM *THAT* RIGHT AWAY.

YOU GET SOME *REST,* NOW -- AND I'LL COME BACK AND SEE YOU AGAIN *TOMORROW.*

YOU'RE A *GOOD* BOY, PETER. MAKE SURE YOU GET ENOUGH *VEGETABLES* -- AND DON'T FORGET TO WASH BEHIND YOUR *EARS,* NOW!

YOU GOT IT, AUNT MAY. HECK, I'LL EVEN *FLOSS!*

THE DOCTORS SAY SHE'S GOT A GOOD CHANCE OF *RECOVERY* -- THAT SHE'S GOT A *FIGHTING SPIRIT!*

HECK, *I* COULD'VE TOLD 'EM THAT. BUT THE WAY SHE *LOOKS,* LYING THERE --

OH! *BETTY!*

PETER! I DIDN'T *REALIZE* -- I THOUGHT YOU'D BE --

BETTY, WE HAVE TO TALK.

TALK? ABOUT *WHAT?* YOU DIDN'T ASK ME TO GO WITH YOU TO THAT SPIDER-MAN *FAN CLUB* -- BUT I *SAW* YOU THERE WITH THAT LIZ ALLAN!

AW, BETTY, IT WASN'T WHAT IT LOOKED LIKE -- HONEST! I WASN'T *"WITH"* HER -- AND I'D HAVE ASKED YOU IF I *COULD'VE...*

AND WHY *COULDN'T* YOU..?

WELL, I -- THAT IS --

YOU NEEDN'T MAKE UP A *STORY,* PETER. PLEASE GIVE THESE TO YOUR *AUNT,* WITH MY REGARDS.

I HAVE NOTHING MORE TO *SAY* TO YOU!

WELL, THAT'S JUST *GREAT!* I CAN'T TELL BETTY THAT I COULDN'T ASK HER TO THE CLUB MEETING BECAUSE I HAD TO ATTEND AS *SPIDER-MAN* --

-- AND I CAN'T TELL THE *WORLD* THAT I RAN FROM A FIGHT BECAUSE MY AUNT HAD A HEART ATTACK AND *NEEDED* ME!

AND WHEN I WAS A KID, I ALWAYS THOUGHT SUPER HEROES LED *GLAMOROUS* LIVES!

SILLY ME. I CAN'T EVEN AFFORD TRAIN-FARE *HOME* --WE'VE GOT TO SAVE EVERY PENNY TO PAY FOR AUNT MAY'S *MEDICAL BILLS!*

AND EVEN *THEN,* WE WON'T BE ABLE TO AFFORD IT.

SOME HERO I AM -- SWINGING ALONG, COUNTING MY *MISERIES.* I SHOULD LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE --

-- AT LEAST *FLASH THOMPSON* STILL LIKES --

-- HEY! THE *VULTURE!*

WHEN DID *HE* BREAK OUT OF JAIL?

HE'S TOO FAR AWAY TO HEAR ME -- OR EVEN *NOTICE* ME! AND THE WAY HE'S BARRELING ALONG --

-- HE LOOKS LIKE HE'S *UP* TO SOMETHING -- SOMETHING *BIG!*

MAYBE I CAN *CATCH* HIM -- TURN HIM OVER TO THE COPS! THAT'D HELP MY *REPUTATION* SOME --

-- AND I MIGHT EVEN GET SOME GOOD *PHOTOS* TO SELL TO THE DAILY BUGLE!

I AM CLOSE TO MY GOAL. I MUST STEEL MYSELF --

-- THINK OF NOTHING BUT THE TASK AHEAD OF ME --

WH- WHAT ?!?

HIYA, CHUCKLES -- MISS ME?

EH?

SPIDER-MAN!? I THOUGHT YOU'D TURNED YELLOW!

AW, C'MON, VULTCH -- YOU CAN SPARE A COUPLE OF MINUTES FOR AN OLD PAL!

LET'S CATCH UP -- IT'S BEEN SO LONG! READ ANY GOOD BOOKS LATELY?

I HEAR "20,000 YEARS IN SING-SING" IS SUPPOSED TO BE GOOD!

NAH -- NOT ME! IT DOESN'T GO WITH MY COLOR SCHEME!

WHO EVER HEARD OF A RED-BLUE-AND-YELLOW SUPER HERO?

BAH! I HAVE NO TIME FOR THIS! I HAVE A CHORE TO ACCOMPLISH!

YOU VEX ME BEYOND ENDURANCE, SPIDER-MAN! I'VE AGREED TO COMMIT MURDER TONIGHT --

-- AND WHILE YOU'RE NOT THE TARGET, I HAVE NO QUALMS ABOUT ADDING YOU TO THE LIST!

MURDER!? WHO'RE YOU PLANNING TO KILL?

YOU WON'T CARE, YOU NUISANCE -- NOT ONCE I'VE SMASHED YOU TO BITS AGAINST THAT SKYSCRAPER!

HA! I *KNEW* THAT'D SHAKE YOU OFF!

I'LL *SHOW* YOU HOW LITTLE YOU CONCERN ME, SPIDER-MAN --

-- NOW, WHILE YOU'RE IN *MID-SWING*, AND CAN'T DODGE --

AW, YOU'RE JUST *SAYING* THAT, VULTCH!

YOU WOULDN'T *REALLY* TRY TO HURT ME -- WHO'D YOU TRADE *QUIPS* WITH, IF I WAS GONE?

WHAM

UHH!

HA HA HA HA!

HAPPY *LANDINGS*, SPIDER-MAN! AND IF BY CHANCE YOU SHOULD *SURVIVE* THE FALL --

"-- I'LL DEAL WITH YOU LATER!"

I'LL NEVER HAVE TO DEAL WITH HIM *AGAIN!*

CENTURY

HAVE A *CIGAR*, MORT! HECK, HAVE *TWO!*

I'M THE *HAPPIEST* MAN IN NEW YORK! SPIDER-MAN'S BEEN SHOWN UP AS THE *PHONY* HE IS -- AND I'VE BEEN PROVEN *RIGHT* ABOUT HIM!

THIS IS A RED-LETTER DAY FOR *J. JONAH JAMESON* -- YESSIREE-BOB!

YOU SEEM QUITE *PLEASED* WITH YOURSELF, JONAH.

Ah, NORMAN -- AND WHY *NOT?* I'VE BEEN TELLING PEOPLE FOR YEARS HOW THAT MASKED MENACE IS A *COWARD* AND A *FINK* --

-- AND AT *LAST,* I'VE BEEN VINDICATED, THANKS TO THE GREEN GOBLIN! OF COURSE I'M HAPPY -- WHO *WOULDN'T* BE?

YOU'RE LOOKING PRETTY CHIPPER *YOURSELF,* AS A MATTER OF FACT...

Oh, I'VE GOT MY *REASONS.* BUT IT STRIKES ME THAT YOU'VE MANAGED TO SELL A LOT OF *PAPERS,* WITH YOUR LITTLE CRUSADE AGAINST SPIDER-MAN.

THIS COULD CUT INTO *CIRCULATION,* COULDN'T IT?

≠Ulp≠

Er, *NONSENSE,* OSBORN -- I'VE GOT IT ALL UNDER *CONTROL,* YOU'LL SEE. AFTER ALL -

"-- I'M NOTHING IF NOT *RESOURCEFUL!"*

UHHHH...

TOO RATTLED TO SLING A *WEB* -- BUT I MANAGED TO TWIST IN MID-AIR -- SO I HIT THIS *ROOFTOP,* INSTEAD OF THE STREET!

I FEEL LIKE ONE BIG *BRUISE* -- AND IT HURTS EVEN TO *THINK!*

BUT I CAN'T WORRY ABOUT THAT *NOW!*

THE VULTURE SAID HE WAS GOING TO *KILL* SOMEONE -- AND I'VE GOT TO *STOP* HIM!

THWIPP

IT WAS BECAUSE I LET A CRIMINAL ESCAPE WHEN I COULD HAVE STOPPED HIM THAT *UNCLE BEN* GOT KILLED!

I MADE A *PROMISE* TO MYSELF, THEN, THAT I'D NEVER LET THAT HAPPEN AGAIN! I MADE A *PROMISE* --

-- AND I'M GOING TO KEEP IT!

THERE IT IS -- THE BUILDING LEWIS TOLD ME TO **LOOK** FOR.

THERE'S STILL SOMETHING TURNING IN MY **MIND** -- SOMETHING I CAN'T QUITE **GRASP** --

-- BUT I SHOVE IT **AWAY**. I AM THE VULTURE -- AND I DO WHAT I **MUST**!

I LIVE ON **HATE** AND **ANGER** --

-- AND I HAVE NO **WEAKNESSES**!

THERE'S MY TARGET -- THE MAN NAMED **WILSON FISK**.

THE UNSUSPECTING FOOL --

-- IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE THAT HE'D EVER POSE A THREAT TO **ANYONE**. BUT THAT'S NOT MY CONCERN. HIS DEATH IS THE PRICE OF MY **FREEDOM** --

-- AND THE VULTURE **ALWAYS** PAYS HIS DEBTS!

-- UNDERSTAND, CARRUTHERS -- I WANT ***SWIFT ACTION*** ON THIS. MY SOURCES TELL ME LEWIS IS ***UP*** TO SOMETHING --

-- AND I WANT TO KNOW WHAT IT ***IS***!

KRAC

SHH

I'LL *TELL* YOU WHAT HE'S UP TO, FISK!

HE HAS DECREED YOUR DEATH --

EXCUSE ME, SIR -- BUT MY OFFICE HOURS ARE LONG SINCE OVER FOR THE DAY.

PERHAPS YOU COULD CALL MY SECRETARY *TOMORROW* -- MAKE AN *APPOINTMENT*.

-- AND THE *VULTURE* IS CARRYING OUT THE *SENTENCE!*

CRIPES!

AN *APPOINTMENT* !?!

YOU'RE STARING DEATH IN THE *FACE*, YOU WORTHLESS SACK OF LARD --

-- AND YOU DARE SPEAK TO ME OF AP --

-- *Eh!?!* THAT LINE --?

THWAP

WHOOOARRRRR

WELL. *THAT* WAS DIVERTING. FLINT -- BE SO GOOD AS TO CALL THE *POLICE*, AND ALERT THEM TO OUR VISITOR'S EXISTENCE.

THE *COPS?* ME? BOSS, YOU CAN'T BE *SERIOUS!*

WHY NOT, FLINT? AFTER ALL, I AM MERELY A HUMBLE DEALER IN SPICES.

WHAT HAVE I TO FEAR FROM THE *POLICE?*

SPIDER-MAN!

YOU SHOULD BE DEAD -- OR AT LEAST *UNCONSCIOUS!*

THERE'S NO WAY YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO *FOLLOW* ME HERE!

THAT'S RIGHT -- YOU GAVE ME THE *SLIP* BUT GOOD. UNLESS, OF COURSE, I WAS CLEVER ENOUGH TO SLAP A *SPIDER-TRACER* ON YOU DURING OUR EARLIER TUSSLE --

-- AND FOLLOW ITS SIGNAL RIGHT *TO* YOU!

A -- "SPIDER-TRACER"?

YEP! FACE IT, VULTCH -- YOU'VE BEEN *SNOOKERED!*

THAT DOES IT!

YOU'VE INTERFERED WITH ME FOR THE *LAST* TIME, SPIDER-MAN!

YOU'RE NOT *STRONG* ENOUGH TO DEFEAT ME!

YOU'RE NOT *FAST* ENOUGH TO CATCH ME WITH YOUR INFERNAL *WEBBING!*

I *WILL* KILL THAT FOOL IN THE APARTMENT BELOW -- BUT FIRST, I *ASSURE* YOU -- I WILL KILL *YOU!*

WOW! IF ONE LITTLE SPIDER-TRACER MADE YOU *THAT* MAD --

-- IMAGINE IF I'D ADMITTED I LEFT MY *TRACKING UNIT* AT HOME --

-- AND I JUST *LUCKED* ONTO YOUR TRAIL BY HEADING IN THE DIRECTION YOU WERE GOING WHEN I FIRST *SPOTTED* YOU!

BAH! YOU'RE PATHETIC, SPIDER-MAN! YOU'RE NOT COLD ENOUGH -- NOT HARSH ENOUGH!

YOU DON'T HAVE MY HATRED -- MY ANGER! YOU AREN'T WILLING TO DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO TRIUMPH!

AW, COME ON, VULTURE -- QUIT KIDDING YOURSELF!

YOU SOUND LIKE A MAN TRYING TO TALK HIMSELF INTO SOMETHING HE KNOWS HE DOESN'T WANT TO DO!

YOU INSOLENT PUP! I'LL --

PUT A SOCK IN IT, ALREADY!

WHAT?

YOU WERE ALWAYS AN INDEPENDENT GUY -- ALWAYS OUT FOR YOURSELF!

EXCEPT FOR WHEN YOU HOOKED UP WITH DOC OCK AND THOSE OTHERS, YOU'VE NEVER WORKED WITH ANYONE -- LET ALONE FOR ANYONE!

BUT NOW YOU'RE COMMITTING MURDER? FOR HIRE? IT'S JUST NOT LIKE YOU, WINGS!

HOW DOES IT FEEL, VULTURE -- CARRYING OUT SOMEONE ELSE'S VENDETTAS? DANCING TO SOMEONE ELSE'S TUNE?

DOESN'T REALLY SIT WELL, DOES IT?

YOU'RE WRONG! I'M THE VULTURE!

I DO WHATEVER IT TAKES!

REALLY? THESE SHOULD BE YOUR *GOLDEN* YEARS, VULTCH -- THE *CULMINATION* OF YOUR LIFE AND WORK!

IS THIS REALLY WHAT YOU *WANT* OUT OF LIFE? TO BE SOMEONE ELSE'S *ATTACK DOG?*

WHEN YOU WERE *YOUNGER* -- IS *THIS* HOW YOU THOUGHT YOU'D END UP?

WHEN -- WHEN I WAS --

-- YOUNGER?

WHEN I WAS YOUNGER.

AND THE FEELING AT THE BACK OF MY MIND -- THE NAGGING FEELING I'D TRIED TO IGNORE -- BREAKS THROUGH. AND I REMEMBER.

I REMEMBER ADRIAN TOOMES -- THE MAN I USED TO BE.

I REMEMBER THE DELIGHT I FELT, WHEN I TOOK WHAT I SAW IN MY MIND AND MADE IT REAL.

I REMEMBER THE EXCITEMENT I FELT WHEN THE SOLUTION TO A TRICKY PROBLEM SUDDENLY UNFOLDED BEFORE ME.

I REMEMBER FEELING JOY -- FEELING ANTICIPATION --FEELING HAPPY.

AND ALL OF A SUDDEN --

-- I JUST CAN'T DO IT ANYMORE.

Huh? WHAT'RE YOU --

NO, SPIDER-MAN. THIS IS NOT HOW I THOUGHT I'D END UP. THIS IS NOTHING LIKE THE MAN I THOUGHT I'D BECOME.

I'M A FAILURE, A SHAM -- LYING TO MYSELF AS MUCH AS TO ANYONE ELSE.

GEEZ -- I WAS JUST HOPING TO RATTLE HIM, NOT -- NOT DO WHATEVER IT WAS I DID! HE'S ACTUALLY SURRENDERING TO THE COPS!

PARDON ME IF I DON'T THANK YOU FOR POINTING IT OUT.

MAN, WHAT A MOMENT! I COULD USE MY BELT-CAMERA -- GET SOME GREAT PHOTOS OF THIS! BUT SOMEHOW, IT SEEMS LIKE IT'D BE --

"-- INTRUDING."

WELL, WELL, WELL. THE VULTURE --

-- GIVING HIMSELF UP AS NICE AS YOU PLEASE. WHAT HAPPENED, FELLA --

-- DECIDE YOU DON'T LIKE IT ON THE OUTSIDE AFTER ALL? OR YOU MET SOMEONE TOUGHER'N YOU?

NO, OFFICER --

-- I JUST FACED A FEW HARD TRUTHS, AND MADE A FEW LONG OVERDUE REALIZATIONS. AND MAYBE, JUST MAYBE, I LEARNED --

"-- THAT *HATE* ISN'T ENOUGH AFTER ALL..."

GEEZ, JASON -- *YOU'RE* SURE IN A GOOD MOOD TODAY.

NO CRIME IN *THAT,* IS THERE? I'M JUST FEELING *AWAKE* -- MORE AWAKE THAN I HAVE IN *MONTHS!*

HEY, DID YOU CATCH THE *NEWS REPORTS* -- ABOUT HOW THE VULTURE ESCAPED FROM *JAIL* AND TURNED HIMSELF *IN?*

WHAT DO YOU THINK *THAT* WAS ALL ABOUT?

I THINK *SPIDEY* HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH IT. I'D PUT *MONEY* ON IT.

I MEAN, IT STANDS TO *FIGURE,* RIGHT?

SUPER-VILLAINS DON'T JUST UP AND DECIDE TO *SURRENDER* -- SOMEONE MUST HAVE *MADE* HIM DO IT.

YEAH, BUT HOW CAN YOU BE SO SURE IT WAS *SPIDER-MAN?* NOBODY'S EVER *SEEN* HIM SINCE THAT NIGHT WITH THE GOBLIN.

YOU'LL SEE, TINY. OL' SPIDEY'LL BE *BACK* -- BETTER THAN EVER!

MAYBE *NOT,* FLASH.

MAYBE SPIDER-MAN'S *DEAD.* MAYBE THE GOBLIN CAUGHT UP TO HIM AND *KILLED* HIM. OR MAYBE --

-- MAYBE HE KILLED *HIM-SELF,* OUT OF GUILT.

HUH? HOW CAN YOU *SAY* THAT, JASON?! GUILT OVER *WHAT?*

WELL, IT'S HIS FAULT *SALLY'S* DEAD, ISN'T IT?

IF NOT FOR *HIM,* SHE'D NEVER HAVE DONE *ANY* OF THE STUFF THAT LED TO HER DEATH.

THE WAY *I* SEE IT -- MAYBE SPIDER-MAN'S FINALLY GOTTEN WHAT HE *DESERVED...!*

NEXT: THE *AMAZING SPIDER-MAN'S* FIRST EVER MEETING WITH... THE ORIGINAL *X-MEN*

BE THERE!